COUNTRY Yugoslavia/Hungary/Rumania/Holga

Bureau International Socialiste du SUBJECT

Centre - Est de l'Europe

25X1A2g

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO. January 1949 25X1X6

DATE DISTR.

CD NO.

11 Car 1949

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A2q

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

The international organization of the European Social-Democratic Parties

(COMISCO) has been reluctant to accept as regular members of the organization the various groups of the Central and East-European Social Democrats who, as a consequence of the prevailing political circumstances, were obliged to flee their respective countries. To unite their forces and have an international organization to represent their common interests, the Social Democratic political emigres of the Soviet orbit established, some eight months ago, in Paris, the Bureau International Socialiste du Centre - Est d l'Europe (BIS). In doing so they referred to a resolution of the International Conference of Socialists at Anvers, which provided the possibility of establishing regional groups for Social-Democratic Parties of various countries without affecting the authority of the COMISCO. a matter of fact, the BIS is an executive organ of the participating parties, each party having two representatives in it. For the time being the structure of the organization is the following:

Chairman: Dr. Zivko Topalovic, Yugoslavia Vice-Presidents: Mr. Charles Peyer, Hungary Professor J. Kaminskas, Latvia General Secretary: Zygmunt Zaremba, Poland Secretary: Sacha Volman, Rumania

2. The composition of the Executive Committee is as follows:

Zvetko Penev ) Bulgaria George Petkov)

Johannes Mihkelson) Esthonia

G. Surtis

F. Cielens) Latvia

B. Kadnins)

Professor J. Kaminskas - Lithuania

Dr. Frederick Pisky-Schmidt) Hungary

Dr. Charles Pataky

Adam Ciolkosz) Poland F. Bialasz

Dr. L. Skineanu) Rumania

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P. Fedenko )
I. Mazeba ) Ukraine
M. Stachin )
Dr. Jelenec) Yugoslavia

- 3. The Georgian Social Democratic Party under the leadership of Gwardzaladze (fnu), the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (DACHNA) under the leadership of Samuelian (fnu), as well as the Russian Democratic Front, asked for their admittance to the BIS.
- 4. In spite of prolonged discussions, however, the representatives of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party, who recently fled their country were not prepared to join the BIS. The explanation they gave for their reluctance to do so was that they are ordinary members of the COMISCO and that they are confident that a kind of collaboration of the emigres with the COMISCO will soon be possible. The other members of the BIS, however, point out that there is a general reluctance on the part of the Czechoslovak political emigres to join any new international organization. According to the view of emigre circles, the Czechoslovaks realized that whenever they adhere to new international organizations, the Slovaks demand a completely separate representation, thus dissolving the unitary Czechoslovak groups into independent Czech and Slovak ones. As a consequence of similar experiences, the Czechoslovaks are definitely unwilling to enter any new international organizations, and stick to the old organizations where their influence is strong enough to prevent the splitting of their representations.
- 5. As a result of their persistent efforts, the leaders of the BIS succeeded in securing the moral and political support of some foreign political parties. Noteworthy among them is their contact with the Partito Socialisto dei Lavoratori Italiani (Saragat). Saragat is supporting very actively the efforts of BIS and instructed Carlo Andreoni, Paris representative of his party, to help the BIS whenever he is asked. They succeeded, furthermore, in establishing cordial relationship with Leon Dennen, a representative of the United States Social Democratic Federation, who is encouraging, on behalf of his Federation, the leadership of the BIS to continue their efforts. Their contacts with the United States Socialist Party are most cordial. The closest contacts are, however, the contacts of the BIS with the Force Cuvriere (French anti-Communist labor union) the president of which, Leon Jouhaux, is an active sponsor of BIS.

